GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:852
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
HARVESTING OF RAIN WATER
RASA SINGH RAWAT

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Government for rain water harvesting in drought hit States including Rajasthan; and

(b) the amount spent by the Government on water harvesting projects in the States including Rajasthan during the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. The Central Government has initiated following measures for rain water harvesting in the country including drought hit States which includes Rajasthan:-

(i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country.

(ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

(iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.

(iv) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.

(v) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwbindia.com) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.

(b) The Central Ground Water Board implemented demonstrative rainwaterharvesting and recharge projects in the country under its Central Sector Scheme for 'Study of Recharge to Ground Water'. Under this scheme, a total number of 174 projects were approved for implementation in 27 States/Union Territories at a cost of Rs. 35.81 crore. Amount spent during last three years under the scheme in Rs. 22 crore out of which, an amount of Rs. 71.69 lakh has been spent in Rajasthan.